## California State Parks - Junior Ranger Program



**Ecology** — A Self-Guided Activity for Junior Rangers
Ecology means the study of the home. Our home is
planet Earth. Take a look around the park to see how
humans, plants, Animals, air, water and all other
parts of nature work together and need each other to
survive.

Pick a piece of unpaved ground as big as a picnic table to be your study area.  Do your best to list as many things in that area that you can find.
Draw a picture of the area on the back. Include humans, dirt, rocks, plants, insects, and anything else listed above, living or not.  List three pairs of things that are touching.
Can you find any habitats (homes) for plants and animals? Yes/No (List them)

Does anything in the area eat anything else? Yes/No

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Does anything in the area breathe air?
Yes/No

Does anything in the area need water? Yes/No

Is there any form of water in your study area? (If yes, list it)
Does your life depend on anything in your study area? (Example: Soil to grow plants. Bees to pollinate the plants I eat)
Is there any trash in your study area? Yes/No  If there is, please pick it up. Do not pick up broken glass or sharp metal objects.  Ask an adult to get them for you.
Is there anything you can recycle? Yes/No If yes, please recycle it.
If there is/was trash, could it endanger anything living in your area? Yes/No
Could it blow into the ocean or be moved by animals? Yes/No
What can we do to help protect the habitats of the plants and animals in the park?